Hawaii Energy Forum Meeting

February 21, 2006 Meeting
HECO Auditorium – 900 Richards St.
Tuesday February 21, 2006
12:00 noon – 3:00 pm

Final Summary Notes

In Attendance:

Al Chee, Peter Rosegg, Shad Kane, Carl Freedman, John Harrison, Rick Reed, Warren Bollmeier, Riley Saito, Ray Starling, Robbie Alm, John Cole, Mitch Ewan, Mark Glick, Steve Golden, Allyn Lee, Maurice Kaya, Bill Kaneko, Mike Hamnett, Sharon Miyashiro, David Matcia (for Melissa Pavlicek, WSPA), Natalie Mims (for Kyle Datta, RMI), Susan Char, Kaiulani De Silva.

New Members:

Ray Starling, Hawai‘i Energy Group
Allyn Lee, Department of Design & Construction, City & County of Honolulu

Legislative Update:

- All HEPF legislative proposals still alive and moving to respective money committees after first lateral deadline
- HEPF funding bill (HB2848/SB3186) moving to money committees

Working Group Reports:

Renewable Energy WG: Warren Bollmeier & Mitch Ewan

- Forum bills moving to money committees
- Administration bills (HB2308HD1 & SB2271 SD1) moving to money committees
- Majority bills (HB2175HD1 & SB2957SD1) to money committees
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- Check the bills as they have been amended but still have proposals but in different bills.
- Members need to review and vet amendments on <hepf.org> website as we are testifying based on comments offered.
- Forum needs to vet “Renewable Energy” definition; and, if possible, related terms “Energy Efficiency” and “Alternative Energy”.
  - Definitions provided as comments for HB 3053 and “Renewable Energy” definition on the <hepf.org> website will be consolidated to develop one definition
  - A subcommittee was formed to work on the definition.
  - Subcommittee members are: Warren Bollmeier, Mitch Ewan, John Cole, Rick Reed, Carl Freedman, Ray Starling & Peter Rosegg
  - Subcommittee will draft a definition, which will be circulated to the entire Forum for vetting.

**Efficiency WG: John Harrison**

- Bills on silver LEED standards in state facilities and vehicles & use of energy star products are moving (HB2175 HD1 / SB2957 SD1)
- HB3053 (re RE & Energy Efficiency definition) & SB3161 (on biofuels) moving to Finance Committee
- Feebate/clean fuels (SB3177) moving to WAM
- Other energy efficiency bills that Forum has not vetted (eg SB2125 re: pilot use of biodiesel fuelled state vehicles; SB3177 re: GO bonds to finance RE & energy efficient technologies in state buildings) are also moving
- Honolulu City Council passed Bill 77 requiring all new city facilities of 75,000 square feet or more to meet silver LEED standard effective FY2008; with the Department of Design & Construction to determine feasibility.

**Regulatory Reform WG: Carl Freedman**
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- Two Forum proposals relating to revitalization of the PUC & DCA (HB1021HD1/ SB3184 SD1) are moving to the money committees
- Specific language re: refund of fees will be posted for vetting on the <hepf.org>website
- As part of the bills deal with staffing and exempting certain positions from the civil service to enable the agencies to hire competent staff, HEPF should follow-up (from the last Forum meeting) with Linda Smith to bring other department heads (DB&F and DHRD) to address ways to expedite implementation of the comprehensive energy strategy.
- HB2619 amends the RPS law to ensure that utility earns a fair rate of return is moving to Finance Committee.

Hydrocarbon Futures WG: Steve Golden & Al Chee

- Related bills not vetted by the Forum are moving to House Finance eg. HB 3115HD1 relating to petroleum monitoring & HB3097/SB3188 relating to tax credits to Neighbor Islands for petro storage)

Cultural/Social Impacts WG: Shad Kane

- Committee should examine siting issues
- Oahu Council of Hawaiian Civic Clubs & in particular the cultural landscapes committee are in agreement with the Forum’s position on reducing dependence on imported fossil fuel.
- Statewide organization is comprised of 53 clubs with Oahu Council comprised of 23 clubs that meet quarterly with an annual convention in the Fall.

Communication/Outreach WG: Bill Kaneko & Peter Rosegg

- Draft of program for engaging broader community on energy issues (ie business, labor, community leaders, media, policymakers) through a series of breakfast roundtable dialogs.
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- First of series (possibly six) would focus on what’s happening in energy/bills that are likely to pass and importance to the state (the “big picture”) of coming together on energy strategy
- First “breakfast dialog” has been tentatively set for March 29, 8-9:30am, at Ala Moana Hotel. Speakers confirmed to date are Sen. English & Rep Morita. DBEDT Director Ted Liu or the Governor may be the third member of the panel.
- Other sessions in the series could include: transportation; building & construction/energy efficiency; but the first session must capture the audience’s attention and engage them to come back for the other sessions in the series.
- Other ideas for the sessions.
  - Must present the energy incentives/benefits for attendees
  - Educate attendees on the incentives & benefits of changing behaviors (using/supporting RE; engaging in energy efficient behaviors/technologies, etc.)—Why is energy and energy bills/policies important to the State
  - Engage attendees in the discussion on “what will it take to get Hawaii’s consumers to conserve or use RE?”
  - Speaker on global warming or other issues re: Hawai‘i at risk
  - Challenge audience re: consumer behavior change; identify the “crisis” to move attendees to action
- Determine the objective(s) first then it will lead to who we should get as speakers/program and who should be invited
  - To build constituency base for action
  - To educate consumers/leadership on the “big picture” energy issues, including global (eg. world situation and energy markets) and local issues impacting the individual
  - To educate policymakers
  - To share the work of the Forum – the 10 Point Plan and the public/private vision of the Forum for a better future for Hawai‘i,

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including emphasis on the aina, culture & use of state lands, preserving the island lifestyle through energy and its use; and how the Forum adopted the 10 Point Plan and supported by the Administration & Legislature

• We should put together a brochure on the Forum’s 10 Point Plan similar to the Sierra Club’s brochure that we can distribute at the event(s). It should describe the energy “crisis” that led to the Forum's adoption of the 10Point Plan and the Legislature & Administration support for the goals/actions in the Plan.

• Members were asked to email or call Bill Kaneko (wkaneko@ahfi.com or Peter.Rosegg@heco.com with comments and ideas for the roundtable dialog asap.

Vetting Process for Bills:

• Participation on the Forum’s legislative website is lacking and is needed. Comments should be posted asap on the new amended language so that Working Group Chairs can review and prepare testimony on amendments on which we have consensus. The legislative process is very fast-paced so members are encouraged to provide feedback asap as testimony will be submitted only if there is consensus on an issue.

• We will attempt to give a heads up via email about bills that have been altered and need Forum action.

• Members should look at the<hepf.org> website under the URL on the bill as amendments may be very different from the original bill.

• Forum vetting, bill tracking, and testimonies submitted should focus on the Forum’s bills –priority areas—that we can show that we addressed and successful delivery on these proposals.

• Whether the Forum should vet a measure/amendment is to be determined by the respective WG Chair(s) based on whether the bill meets the 10 Point Plan AND the Forum members agree on the position (no opposition). If a WG
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Chair believes that there will be “heartburn” by at least one member if the bill went forward, he should discuss it with the affected member to see if they could find compromise language. If not, then it will not be vetted.

- Carl Freedman donated $100 for 5 prizes ($20/prize) to “encourage by incentive” all Forum members to go to the website and to also post their comments.

**Final Points:**

- The Forum should use the 10-point plan as its anchor and make it the central core of what we do. We need to actively promote the plan.
- The level of activity during the session can be quite overwhelming and the Forum has been/will be asked to take on additional responsibilities that we may not be ready to do. It was suggested that the Forum really needs to keep a laser-like focus and the 3 to 4 targets it has selected to accomplish in a session. It is unrealistic to think that we can do everything for everyone. This is a long-term race and we need to pick our targets and accomplish them. There is always next year.

**Next meeting:** March 29 (after or in lieu of the planned “breakfast dialog” meeting).